

REMARKS

Claims 22, 24, 25, 27, 28 and 30 are pending in the application, of which Claims 22, 25 and 28 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that Claims 22, 25 and 28 are allowed.

Claims 23, 24, 26, 27, 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 2002/0041395 (Kimura) in view of U.S. 2002/0089689 (Perlitsch). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Without conceding the correctness of the rejection, Applicant has canceled Claims 23, 26 and 29 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. In addition, Applicant has amended Claims 24, 27 and 30 to depend from Claims 22, 25 and 28, respectively.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Frank L. Cire #42,419/

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